



General Assembly

February Session, 2006

Raised Bill No. 5595

LCO No. 2235

02235_____INS

Referred to Committee on Insurance and Real Estate

Introduced by:
(INS)

AN ACT CONCERNING THE HEALTHY KIDS INITIATIVE.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Assembly convened:

1 Section 1. Section 17b-292 of the 2006 supplement to the general
2 statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof
3 (*Effective July 1, 2006*):

4 (a) A child who resides in a household with a family income which
5 exceeds one hundred eighty-five per cent of the federal poverty level
6 and does not exceed three hundred per cent of the federal poverty
7 level may be eligible for subsidized benefits under the HUSKY Plan,
8 Part B.

9 (b) A child who resides in a household with a family income over
10 three hundred per cent of the federal poverty level may be eligible for
11 unsubsidized benefits under the HUSKY Plan, Part B.

12 (c) Whenever a court or family support magistrate orders a
13 noncustodial parent to provide health insurance for a child, such
14 parent may provide for coverage under the HUSKY Plan, Part B.

15 (d) A child who has been determined to be eligible for benefits

16 under either the HUSKY Plan, Part A or Part B shall remain eligible for
17 such plan for a period of twelve months from such child's
18 determination of eligibility unless the child attains the age of nineteen
19 or is no longer a resident of the state, regardless of any changes in
20 family composition or family income. During the twelve-month period
21 following the date that a child is determined eligible for the HUSKY
22 Plan, Part A or Part B, the department shall not require the family of
23 such child to report changes in family income or family composition.

24 [(d)] (e) To the extent allowed under federal law, the commissioner
25 shall not pay for services or durable medical equipment under the
26 HUSKY Plan, Part B if the enrollee has other insurance coverage for
27 the services or such equipment.

28 [(e)] (f) A newborn child who otherwise meets the eligibility criteria
29 for the HUSKY Plan, Part B shall be eligible for benefits retroactive to
30 his date of birth, provided an application is filed on behalf of the child
31 within thirty days of such date.

32 [(f)] (g) The commissioner shall implement presumptive eligibility
33 for children applying for Medicaid. Such presumptive eligibility
34 determinations shall be in accordance with applicable federal law and
35 regulations. The commissioner shall adopt regulations, in accordance
36 with chapter 54, to establish standards and procedures for the
37 designation of organizations as qualified entities to grant presumptive
38 eligibility. Qualified entities shall ensure that, at the time a
39 presumptive eligibility determination is made, a completed application
40 for Medicaid is submitted to the department for a full eligibility
41 determination. In establishing such standards and procedures, the
42 commissioner shall ensure the representation of state-wide and local
43 organizations that provide services to children of all ages in each
44 region of the state.

45 [(g)] (h) The commissioner shall enter into a contract with an entity
46 to be a single point of entry servicer for applicants and enrollees under
47 the HUSKY Plan, Part A and Part B. The servicer shall jointly market

48 both Part A and Part B together as the HUSKY Plan. Such servicer shall
49 develop and implement public information and outreach activities
50 with community programs. Such servicer shall electronically transmit
51 data with respect to enrollment and disenrollment in the HUSKY Plan,
52 Part B to the commissioner.

53 ~~[(h)]~~ (i) Upon the expiration of any contractual provisions entered
54 into pursuant to subsection ~~[(g)]~~ (h) of this section, the commissioner
55 shall develop a new contract for single point of entry services and
56 managed care enrollment brokerage services. The commissioner may
57 enter into one or more contractual arrangements for such services for a
58 contract period not to exceed seven years. Such contracts shall include
59 performance measures, including, but not limited to, specified time
60 limits for the processing of applications, parameters setting forth the
61 requirements for a completed and reviewable application and the
62 percentage of applications forwarded to the department in a complete
63 and timely fashion. Such contracts shall also include a process for
64 identifying and correcting noncompliance with established
65 performance measures, including sanctions applicable for instances of
66 continued noncompliance with performance measures.

67 ~~[(i)]~~ (j) The single point of entry servicer shall send an application
68 and supporting documents to the commissioner for determination of
69 eligibility of a child who resides in a household with a family income
70 of one hundred eighty-five per cent or less of the federal poverty level.
71 The servicer shall enroll eligible beneficiaries in the applicant's choice
72 of managed care plan. Upon enrollment in a managed care plan, an
73 eligible HUSKY Plan Part A or Part B beneficiary shall remain enrolled
74 in such managed care plan for twelve months from the date of such
75 enrollment unless (1) an eligible beneficiary demonstrates good cause
76 to the satisfaction of the commissioner of the need to enroll in a
77 different managed care plan, or (2) the beneficiary no longer meets
78 program eligibility requirements.

79 ~~[(j)]~~ (k) Not more than twelve months after the determination of

80 eligibility for benefits under the HUSKY Plan, Part A and Part B and
 81 annually thereafter, the commissioner or the servicer, as the case may
 82 be, shall determine if the child continues to be eligible for the plan. The
 83 commissioner or the servicer shall mail an application form to each
 84 participant in the plan for the purposes of obtaining information to
 85 make a determination on eligibility. To the extent permitted by federal
 86 law, in determining eligibility for benefits under the HUSKY Plan, Part
 87 A and Part B with respect to family income, the commissioner or the
 88 servicer shall rely upon information provided in such form by the
 89 participant unless the commissioner or the servicer has reason to
 90 believe that such information is inaccurate or incomplete. The
 91 determination of eligibility shall be coordinated with health plan open
 92 enrollment periods.

93 [(k)] (l) The commissioner shall implement the HUSKY Plan, Part B
 94 while in the process of adopting necessary policies and procedures in
 95 regulation form in accordance with the provisions of section 17b-10.

96 [(l)] (m) The commissioner shall adopt regulations, in accordance
 97 with chapter 54, to establish residency requirements and income
 98 eligibility for participation in the HUSKY Plan, Part B and procedures
 99 for a simplified mail-in application process. Notwithstanding the
 100 provisions of section 17b-257b, such regulations shall provide that any
 101 child adopted from another country by an individual who is a citizen
 102 of the United States and a resident of this state shall be eligible for
 103 benefits under the HUSKY Plan, Part B upon arrival in this state.

104 Sec. 2. Section 17b-261c of the general statutes is repealed. (*Effective*
 105 *July 1, 2006*)

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:		
Section 1	July 1, 2006	17b-292
Sec. 2	July 1, 2006	Repealer section

Statement of Purpose:

To restore the self-declaration of income and continuous eligibility in the HUSKY Plan, Part A and Part B.

[Proposed deletions are enclosed in brackets. Proposed additions are indicated by underline, except that when the entire text of a bill or resolution or a section of a bill or resolution is new, it is not underlined.]